

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 04955 181009Z

12
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04

SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 SAM-01

SAB-01 /091 W
----- 054763

P R 180850Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5325
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, SA
SUBJECT: SAUDI POLICY ON REMOVAL FROM BLACKLIST - AMERICAN
MOTORS

REF: (A) STATE 148112 (B) STATE 93327

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED VISIT FROM LAWRENCE H. HYDE, VICE
PRESIDENT FOR INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS, AMERICAN MOTORS,
CORPORATION, SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN WHO SHED SOME LIGHT
ON SAUDI AND OVERALL ARAB POLICY RE SUBJECT. THE
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PAGE 02 JIDDA 04955 181009Z

FIRM HAS BEEN BOYCOTTED FOR HAVING A LICENSEE IN ISRAEL.

2. HYDE STATED THAT IN CONTACTS WITH DAMASCUS ARAB LEAGUE BOYCOTT OFFICE, FIRM WAS INFORMED THAT IT COULD BE REMOVED FROM BLACKLIST BY MAKING AN INVESTMENT IN AN ARAB COUNTRY BELONGING TO LEAGUE. HE AFFIRMED THAT AMC HAD NO INTENTION OF TERMINATING ITS LICENSING AGREEMENT IN ISRAEL, AND HAS MADE THIS KNOWN TO AL, EGYPTIAN AND SAUDI OFFICIALS. HE UNDERSTOOD THAT ACTION IF TAKEN BY AL OFFICES IN DAMASCUS IN REMOVING FIRM FROM LIST WOULD BE APPLICABLE ALL ARAB COUNTRIES NOW ENFORCING BOYCOTT AGAINST AMC. FIRM NOW CONSIDERING ESTABLISHMENT OF ASSEMBLY PLANT FOR LIGHT TRUCKS NEAR ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT, AND HYDE VISITING HERE TO REVIEW POSSIBLE SAUDI AGENTS WHEN REMOVED FROM BOYCOTT LIST. HE HAS RECEIVED EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FROM SEVERAL PROMINENT SAUDI FIRMS, ALTHOUGH STILL BOYCOTTED.

3. IT IS NOTED THAT CONDITION FOR REMOVAL FROM ARAB BOYCOTT LIST IN THIS CASE DOES NOT CONFORM TO SAUDI MINISTER AL-GHOSAIBI'S STATEMENT RE QUOTE EXACTLY WHAT IT DOES IN ISRAEL UNQUOTE TO QUALIFY FOR REMOVAL. WHEREAS LICENSING AGREEMENT PERTAINS IN ISRAEL, OFFSET MEASURE IN ARAB COUNTRY WILL BE ESTABLISHMENT OF ASSEMBLY PLANT.

4. WE BELIEVE THAT SAUDIS WOULD GO ALONG WITH AL BOYCOTT DECISIONS AS THEY HAVE DONE UNQUESTIONABLY OVER THE YEARS. THUS, REMOVAL FROM BLACKLIST WOULD INVOLVE A COMMON DECISION RATHER THAN ANY UNILATERAL DECISION LIMITED TO SAUDIS ALONE.
PORTER

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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04 MAY 2006

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